## Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of	)	
	)	MM Docket No. 99-25
Creation of a Low	)	
Power Radio Service	)	RM-9208
	j	RM-9242

## **Comments of the College Radio Task Force**

Michael M. Bracy Executive Director Low Power Radio Coalition 601 13<sup>TH</sup> St. NW Suite 900 South Washington, DC 20005

## August 2, 1999

We are a group of 24 college and university broadcasters who believe the Federal Communications Commission should move forward with its proposed rule establishing a new class of Low Power FM radio stations. We represent literally hundreds of thousands of students who have something to contribute to their campuses and communities through the airwaves.

These students represent the future of broadcasting as a public entity, rather than as simply a business product. It is because of them, and the generations who will follow them, that we are particularly interested in this new opportunity. Most of the undersigned utilize the Internet, carrier current or cable television to distribute our

signals. These means are inadequate, but obviously serve as a symbol of our determination to exist.

Access to the airwaves makes it possible for us to have a positive impact in our surrounding communities that we cannot currently make. If Low Power FM becomes an option, we will explore taking advantage of additional spectrum availability and lower transmission costs to broadcast our signals over-the-air.

We all have different reasons as to why we are not able to broadcast, including lack of available spectrum and unrealistic transmission costs. These Low Power FM stations will make a substantial and immediate impact to our ability to maximize our role in the community.

We encourage the FCC to:

- 1. Establish Low Power FM stations ranging from 10 watts to 1000 watts
- Ensure educational institutions have every appropriate opportunity to receive Low Power FM licenses for non-commercial use without going through an auction process
- Stress public education, outreach, and streamlined regulatory processes as a way to ensure college radio can continue to thrive in the future.

With the FCC's leadership and thoughtful participation of existing broadcasters, Low Power FM will create significant opportunities to expand the reach of college and university broadcasters without intruding on the primary signal areas of current FM stations. We look forward to further articulating how we would like to see Low Power FM implemented throughout the comment process.

## Station Managers and Faculty Advisors Signing College Radio Task Force's Comments

Sal Becovic

Northern Illinois University

DeKalb, Illinois

Jay Beek
Suffolk University
Boston, Massachusetts

Dave Black
University of Wisconsin – Madison
Madison, Wisconsin

Debra Carpenter
Webster University
St. Louis, Missouri

Justin Clifton
University of Arizona

Tucson, Arizona

Joseph D'Acunto
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Michael J. Dailey
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College Station, Texas

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